

FACT SHEET

Revised June 2002

Environmental & Civil Engineering Awards

All Air Force installations, organizations, or individuals are eligible to participate in a variety of environmental awards programs. The Air Force, the federal government, the Department of Defense, professional societies, and other organizations administer these programs. This Fact Sheet provides general information on award types, eligibility requirements, nomination packages, and recent winners.

Policy

The primary policy reference for environmental awards in the Air Force is [Air Force Instruction \(AFI\) 36-2817, Civil Engineer Awards Program](#), 1 July 1996. AFI 36-2817 establishes a program for the Air Force Civil Engineer to recognize Civil Engineer (CE) organizations, major commands (MAJCOMs), field operating agencies (FOAs), and direct reporting units (DRUs); it encourages these organizations to nominate units and individuals for outstanding achievement and contributions to the Air Force mission. The AFI describes criteria for each award, establishes eligibility, and explains nomination, selection, and presentation procedures. Although not every award described in AFI 36-2817 recognizes achievements specific to environmental quality, most recognize activities and organizations related to environmental quality concerns. *Note: AFI 36-2817 is currently under review and revision. Interested parties should contact their MAJCOM/CE Award Representative or AFCEA/ES for current guidance.*

Nomination & Selection Procedures

AFI 36-2817 describes over 40 different award categories. The call for award nominations is generally announced in the spring of each year and nomination packages are usually due in the fall of the same year. Nomination and selection procedures may differ between award categories. Readers should consult appropriate sections of AFI 36-2817 for specific details.



For the Air Force's General Thomas D. White Environmental Awards, the largest category of environmental awards described in AFI 36-2817, installation level organizations submit nominees for award categories to their MAJCOM. The MAJCOM assembles a panel of experts for each award

category to review the nominations. Each panel then selects a recommended winner and submits the package to Headquarters Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence (HQ AFCEE). HQ AFCEE assembles a panel of experts to judge each award and forwards the recommended winners to Deputy Chief of Staff for Installations and Logistics (USAF/IL), for final approval. Upon USAF/IL approval, the Air Force winners compete for Secretary of Defense Environmental Awards against environmental award winners from other military departments. In late April or early May, the Civil Engineer arranges an awards ceremony for the General Thomas D. White Environmental Award winners.

Air Force Award Categories

The following five award categories are from the different types of Air Force Civil Engineer awards described in AFI 36-2817. The award categories described in this fact sheet represent awards that most directly recognize Air Force environmental performance and achievements. Readers should refer to the full text of AFI 36-2817 for additional details on each award and specific nomination procedures.

1. Civil Engineer Awards

Air Force Outstanding Civil Engineer Unit Award: This award recognizes the outstanding Air Force CE unit at large (450 or more military and civilian authorizations) and small (fewer than 450) installations. The award recognizes the CE unit's exemplary performance and efforts to protect the environment and to conserve natural and cultural resources.

Major General Clifton D. Wright Award: In honor of Major General Clifton D. Wright, this award



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recognizes the outstanding CE Operations Flight in the performance of quality maintenance, repair, and improvement of installation facilities and infrastructure. Included in the performance criteria for this award are requirements for energy reduction/savings, results of Environmental Protection Agency and Occupational Safety and Health Administration inspections, and Environmental Compliance Assessment and Management Program (ECAMP) results.

Air Force Outstanding Civil Engineer Environmental Flight Award: This award recognizes the CE Environmental Flight demonstrating outstanding performance in environmental compliance, natural and cultural resources management, pollution prevention, installation restoration, and environmental planning.

2. Design Awards

This awards program recognizes and encourages design excellence in Air Force planning, landscaping, architecture, engineering, interior design, and military family housing design. The call for nominations is made by the Design and Construction Directorate, HQ AFCEE. This award, through the incorporation of sustainable development concepts, recognizes a number of design features that address environmental quality concerns. Information about the submittal of nominations for the Design Awards is available at <http://www.afcee.brooks.af.mil/dc/dcd/AWARDS/AWARDS.asp>.

3. General Thomas D. White Environmental Awards

The Air Force General Thomas D. White Environmental Award winners for Fiscal Year 2001 were announced in December 2001. The winners, are listed after the applicable award category.

General Thomas D. White Environmental Quality Award (CONUS): AF Installations conducting the best or most improved environmental quality program are recognized by this award. Achievements in all aspects of the installations' environmental program are considered, including sustained achievements in:

- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) compliance;
- Integrating environmental policies into base-wide decision making;
- Eliminating environmental violations and permits;
- Cleanup of contaminated sites;
- Waste reduction;
- Pollution prevention;
- Recycling;
- Inter-agency and community relations; and
- Environmental training and awareness.

The winning Air Force installations are nominated for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Quality Award. *Note: The Reserve Component category does not have an associated award at Secretary of Defense level.*

2001 AF Winners:

- 🏆 Eglin AFB, FL (AFMC) (Non-industrial)
- 🏆 181st Fighter Wing, Terre Haute, IN (ANG) (Reserve Component)
- 🏆 Grissom AFB, IN (AFRC) (Reserve Component) (Honorable Mention)

General Thomas D. White Environmental Quality Award (Overseas): This award is presented to an installation located outside the U.S. demonstrating exceptional environmental achievement with consideration given to the host country environmental standards and the level of cooperation between the installation and the local community. The winning installation is nominated for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Quality Award.

- Award not called for in 2001

General Thomas D. White Environmental Quality Award for Individual/Team Excellence: This award is presented to an individual or team that contributes significantly to the Air Force's environmental quality effort. Nominations are evaluated in the following categories:

- Integrating environmental protection into base decision making;
- Conducting environmental training;

- Implementing innovative solutions to enhance the environment; and
- Promoting environmental awareness.

The winning individual/team is nominated for the Secretary of Defense Individual/Team Environmental Quality Award.

2001 AF Winners:

- 🏆 Ms. Joan Albury, Patrick AFB, FL (AFSPC)
- 🏆 Ramstein AB, GE (USAFE) (Honorable Mention)

General Thomas D. White Restoration Award: All installations are eligible for this award. Nominations are evaluated for their outstanding initiatives and achievements in:

- Planning to close or have in final remediation, all contaminated sites by the year 2015;
- Taking innovative actions to limit further expansion of contamination and to speed up final remediation action; and
- Participate in public affairs activities with local communities.

The winning installation is nominated for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Restoration Award.

2001 AF Winner:

- 🏆 F.E. Warren AFB, WY (AFSPC)
- 🏆 Travis AFB, CA (AMC) (Honorable Mention)

General Thomas D. White Restoration Award for Individual/Team Excellence: This award is presented to an individual or team that contributed the most to Air Force's restoration efforts. Nominations are judged for their outstanding initiatives and achievements in:

- Identifying and investigating contaminated sites;
- Correcting groundwater and soil contamination;
- Rehabilitating natural resources; and
- Developing innovative technology.

The winning individual/team is nominated for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Restoration

Individual/Team Award.

2001 AF Winners:

- 🏆 Ms. Beatrice Kephart, Vandenberg AFB, CA (AFSPC)
- 🏆 Mr. Michael O'Brien, Beale AFB, CA (ACC) (Honorable Mention)

General Thomas D. White Pollution Prevention Award: Nominations are evaluated for their outstanding initiatives and achievements in:

- Baseline waste-stream flow and taking actions to reduce or eliminate waste;
- Reducing ozone depleting substances and other hazardous substances;
- Enhancing pollution prevention and recycling awareness;
- Implementing closed loop recycling projects,
- Promoting and improving participation in office and work area recycling programs; and
- Purchasing recycled content goods and materials.

The Air Force winners in each category are nominated for the Secretary of Defense Pollution Prevention Awards (Industrial and Non-industrial Installations - refer to AFI 36-2817 for description).

2001 AF Winner:

- 🏆 Robins AFB, GA (AFMC) (Industrial)

General Thomas D. White Pollution Prevention Individual/Team Excellence Award: This award recognizes the individual or team that contributed the most to the Air Force's pollution prevention effort. Nominations are evaluated in the following categories:

- Material substitution;
- Improved material management;
- Reductions achieved; and
- Improving base composting program.

The winning individual/team is nominated for the Secretary of Defense Individual/Team Pollution Prevention Award.

- Award not called for in 2001

General Thomas D. White Pollution Prevention Acquisition Individual/Team Award: This award is presented to the individual or team that most significantly incorporates pollution prevention into acquisition practices. Nominations are evaluated in the following categories:

- Incorporating environmental analysis into the acquisition decision making process;
- Improving material management;
- Improving material management; and
- Promoting pollution prevention awareness.

The winning individual/team is nominated for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition Team Award.

2001 AF Winner:

🦅 Patrick AFB, FL (AFSPC)

General Thomas D. White National Environmental Policy Act Award (Environmental Planning): Environmental planning includes addressing environmental issues as they affect, and are affected by, development activities at the installation. Nominations are evaluated for their outstanding initiatives and achievements in:

- Planning: Innovative analysis; partnering; cost reduction; and streamlining the process of identifying the proposed action, alternatives, and mitigation;
- Analysis: Coordination; public involvement; and integrating environmental analysis into planning and decisions;
- Implementation: Consultation with other Federal, state, and local agencies and Native American tribes; and use of time management techniques; and
- Environmental Justice: Address this issue in minority and low-income populations.

Winning Air Force installations are nominated for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Planning Award.

- Award not called for in 2001

General Thomas D. White Natural Resources Conservation Awards: Large (more than 10,000 acres) and small Air Force installations in the U.S., Guam, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, and the U.S. Virgin Islands are eligible and encouraged to compete for each of these two awards. Performance criteria include program improvements, interagency cooperation, education, and command support. Sustained achievements in the following areas are also considered:

- Natural Resources Plan development and implementation;
- Landscaping and grounds management;
- Urban forest, wetland, and wildlife management/protection; and
- Promoting cultural/natural resources awareness and education.

Winning Air Force installations are nominated for the Secretary of Defense Natural Resources Conservation Awards (large and small installations).

2001 AF Winners:

🦅 Fairchild AFB, WA (AMC) (Small Base Category)

🦅 Robins AFB, GA (AFMC) (Small Base Category) (Honorable Mention)

General Thomas D. White Natural Resources Conservation Award for Individual/Team Excellence: This award is presented to the individual or team that most significantly contributed to the Air Force's natural resources conservation program. Nominations are evaluated in the following categories:

- Conducting inventories of natural resources;
- Implementing integrated natural resources plans;
- Protecting wetlands and other special natural areas; and
- Promoting conservation education.

Winners are nominated for the Secretary of Defense Natural Resources Conservation Individual/Team Award.

2001 AF Winner:

✉ Patrick AFB, FL (AFSPC)

General Thomas D. White Cultural Resources Management Award for Installations: This award recognizes the installation that contributed the most to the Air Force's natural and cultural resources management efforts. Award criteria include:

- Outstanding achievements in conducting inventories of natural resources;
- Preparing and implementing integrated natural resources plans;
- Applying innovative management techniques; and
- Promoting natural/cultural resources awareness.

The Air Force winners are nominated for the Secretary of Defense Cultural Resources Management Award.

2001 AF Winner:

✉ Eglin AFB, FL (AFMC)

General Thomas D. White Cultural Resources Management Award for Individual/Team Excellence: This award is presented to the individual or team that most significantly contributed to the Air Force's cultural resources management efforts. Nominations are evaluated in the following categories:

- Identifying and protecting archeological and historic properties;
- Preparing historical preservation plans;
- Maintaining historical properties with sensitive treatments; and
- Promoting conservation education.

Winners are nominated for the Secretary of Defense Cultural Resources Management Individual/Team Award.

- Award not called for in 2001

4. Secretary of Defense Environmental Security Awards

The purpose of these annual awards is to provide incentives for DoD members to develop, maintain, and improve natural resources; to protect the natural beauty and environmental quality of DoD installations; and to recognize outstanding achievements in support of DoD environmental policy. The Secretary of the Air Force nominates the winners of the corresponding Air Force General Thomas D. White Environmental Awards for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Security Awards. The categories of the Secretary of Defense Awards are listed below, including all 2001 winners.

➤ ***Natural Resources Conservation***

2001 Winner - Small Installation:

✉ U.S. Army Transportation Center, Fort Eustis and Fort Story, VA

2001 AF Winner - Individual/Team:

✉ Natural Resource Conservation Team, 45th Space Wing, Patrick AFB, FL

➤ ***Cultural Resources Management***

2001 Winner - Installation:

✉ Commander Navy Region Mid-Atlantic, Hampton Roads, VA

➤ ***Environmental Quality***

2001 AF Winner - Non-Industrial:

✉ Air Armament Center, Eglin AFB, FL

2001 Winner - Individual/Team:

✉ Commander Stephen P. Markle, USN, Lewis and Clark Class Program, Washington, DC

➤ ***Pollution Prevention***

2001 AF Winner - Industrial:

✉ Warner Robins Air Logistics Center, Robins AFB, GA

➤ ***Environmental Restoration***

2001 AF Winner - Installation:

✉ F.E. Warren AFB, WY

2001 Winner - Individual/Team:

✉ Ms. Beatrice L. Kephart, Vandenberg AFB, CA

➤ ***Environmental Excellence in Weapon System Acquisition***

2001 Winner - Team:

✉ Lewis and Clark Class Project Team, Washington, DC

Nomination packages for the Secretary of Defense Environmental Security Awards are prepared by the Air Force winners in accordance with category-specific formats described in *Secretary of Defense Environmental Security Awards Guidelines*, available from PROACT or DENIX.

5. Outside Agency Awards:

National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) Federal Engineer of the Year Awards: These awards recognize the accomplishments of federal government engineers (military and civilian). Upon receiving annual instructions from NSPE, the Civil Engineer provides nomination guidance to each MAJCOM Commander, Air Staff, and the FOAs. The Air Force winners are then placed in competition with other federal agency winners for the title of Federal Engineer of the Year.

Air Force Engineer of the Year:

✉ Capt William H. Kale III, Deputy Chief Engineering Flight, 819th Red Horse Squadron, Malmstrom AFB

Federal Environmental Engineer of the Year Award: This award is presented annually by the Conference of Federal Environmental Engineers (CFEE) in recognition of exemplary work and accomplishments by environmental engineers in the federal service. Award criteria established by CFEE include the nominee's environmental contributions during the previous two calendar years and professional prestige. HQ AFCEE distributes nomination guidance annually to MAJCOMs and FOAs.

General Edwin W. Rawlings Awards for Environmental Excellence: These awards are offered

annually by the Air Force Association to Air Force officers, enlisted personnel, and civilian personnel who spend less than half of their assigned duty time directly involved in environmental disciplines. An individual from each of two classifications, 1) Management (GS-9 and above - Officer or civilian equivalent); and 2) Technical (GS-8 and below - Enlisted or civilian equivalent), may be nominated in any one of the following environmental categories:

- Pollution Prevention;
- Recycling;
- Environmental Compliance; and
- Protection of Natural and Cultural Resources.

HQ AFCEE screens all nomination packages, and submits the top three in each category to the Air Force Association.

For More Information...

MSgt Charles Brantley, Headquarters Air Force Civil Engineer Support Agency, Personnel Directorate (HQ AFCEA/DP), is the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) for AFI 36-2817, *Civil Engineer Awards Program*. Questions about AFI 36-2817 may be addressed to MSgt Brantley at DSN 523-6412, (850) 283-6412, or charles.brantley@tyndall.af.mil or visit HQ AFCEA website at <http://www.afcesa.af.mil>.

Capt Max Johnson is the primary POC for the Air Force General Thomas D. White Environmental Awards, the CFEE Federal Environmental Engineer of the Year (FEEY) Awards, and the General Edwin W. Rawlings Awards. Specific questions about these awards may be directed to Capt Johnson at (210) 536-3839, DSN 240-3839 or max.johnson@brooks.af.mil.

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